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# UK Geoenergy Observatories Glasgow; express data release, mine water and environmental baseline monitoring boreholes at Cuningar Loop

UK Geoenergy Observatories Programme

Open Report OR/20/02





BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

UK GEOENERGY OBSERVATORIES PROGRAMME

OPEN REPORT OR/20/02

# UK Geoenergy Observatories Glasgow; express data release, mine water and environmental baseline monitoring boreholes at Cuningar Loop

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A Monaghan, V Starcher, H Barron

## *Contributor*

J Burkin, J Elsome, K Shorter, K Walker-Verkuil, G Baxter, S  
Burke, E Callaghan, R Dearden, M Fellgett, C Inauen, O Kuras, P  
Meldrum, J Midgley, B O Dochartaigh, R Swift.

## *Editor*

M Spence

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*British Geological Survey offices*

### **Environmental Science Centre, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG**

Tel 0115 936 3100

### **BGS Central Enquiries Desk**

Tel 0115 936 3143

email [enquiries@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@bgs.ac.uk)

### **BGS Sales**

Tel 0115 936 3241

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### **The Lyell Centre, Research Avenue South, Edinburgh EH14 4AP**

Tel 0131 667 1000

email [scotsales@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:scotsales@bgs.ac.uk)

### **Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD**

Tel 020 7589 4090

Tel 020 7942 5344/45 email [bgs-london@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:bgs-london@bgs.ac.uk)

### **Cardiff University, Main Building, Park Place, Cardiff CF10 3AT**

Tel 029 2167 4280

### **Maclean Building, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford OX10 8BB**

Tel 01491 838800

### **Geological Survey of Northern Ireland, Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Ballymiscaw, Belfast, BT4 3SB**

Tel 01232 666595

[www.bgs.ac.uk/gsni/](http://www.bgs.ac.uk/gsni/)

### **Natural Environment Research Council, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon SN2 1EU**

Tel 01793 411500

Fax 01793 411501

[www.nerc.ac.uk](http://www.nerc.ac.uk)

### **UK Research and Innovation, Polaris House, Swindon SN2 1FL**

Tel 01793 444000

[www.ukri.org](http://www.ukri.org)

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# 1 Introduction

Drilling of six mine water and five environmental baseline monitoring boreholes at Cuningar Loop was completed in December 2019 at the UK Geoenergy Observatory in Glasgow. This document and accompanying files provide an initial overview of the ‘as-built’ borehole infrastructure available for research and innovation.

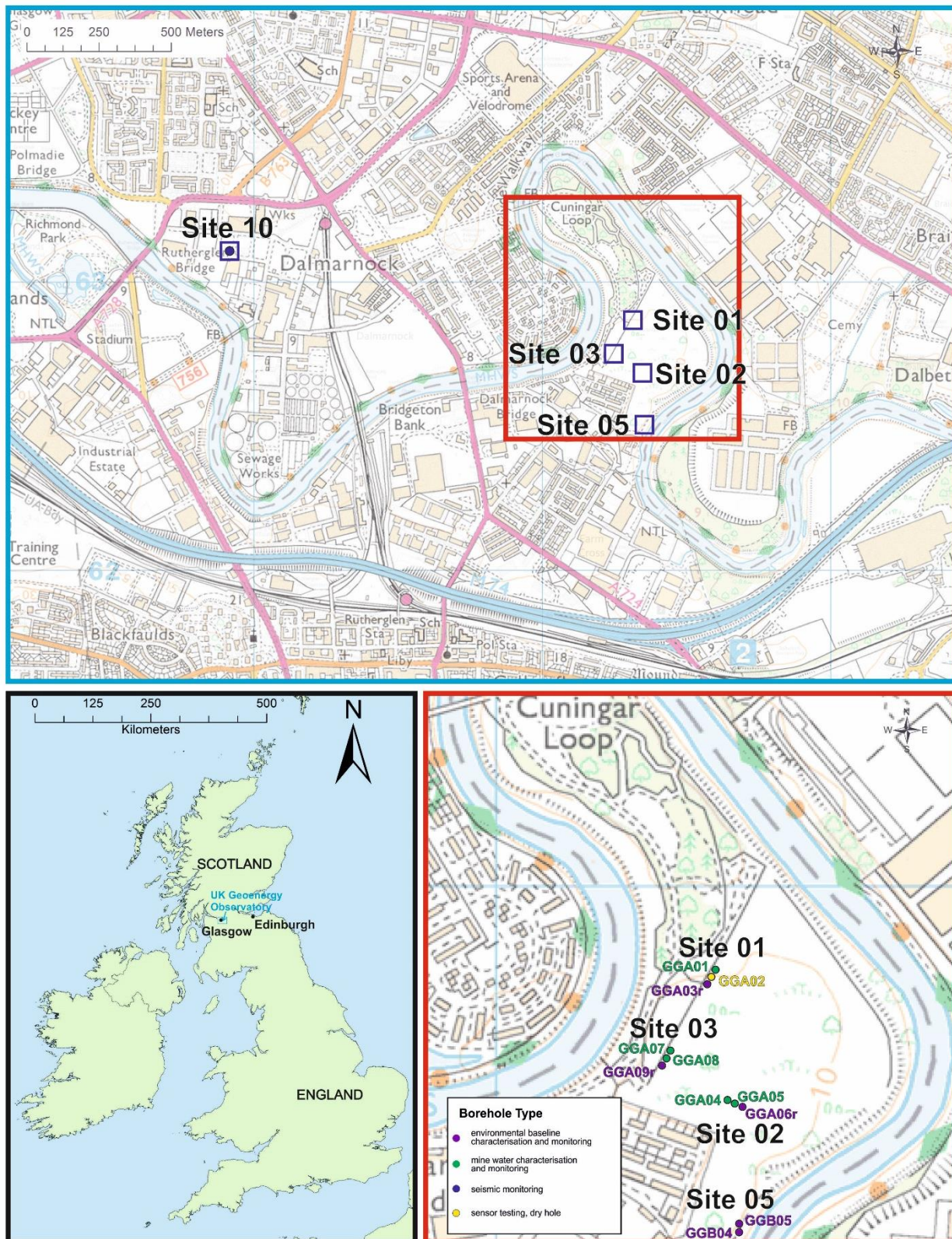
Future data releases will provide a comprehensive data pack for each borehole including:

- Drillers log
- BGS log
- Wireline and optical camera data (selected boreholes only)
- Summary report
- Spreadsheet of archived rock chip samples

Datasets from the twelfth Glasgow borehole, a 199 m deep cored, seismic monitoring borehole located in Dalmarnock are openly available at <https://www.ukgeos.ac.uk/data-downloads/glasgow/seismic-borehole-information-pack>

## 1.1 AS-BUILT BOREHOLE LOCATION AND DEPTHS





**Figure 1** Location maps of the UKGEOS Glasgow borehole locations, including detail of the mine water and environmental baseline boreholes at Cuningar Loop (in red box). Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database rights. All rights reserved [2020] Ordnance Survey [100021290 EUL].



Borehole number	GGERFS Site number	Easting	Northing	Drilling Platform Level AOD	Total drill length, from drill platform
		British National Grid	British National Grid	metres above Ordnance Datum	metres
GGA01	GGERFS01	262318.717	662877.963	10.88	52
GGA02	GGERFS01	262314.084	662869.140	10.91	94.1
GGA03r	GGERFS01	262309.311	662860.241	10.95	41.5
GGA04	GGERFS02	262337.740	662688.066	12.41	53.6
GGA05	GGERFS02	262347.094	662684.925	12.22	88.5
GGA06r	GGERFS02	262356.555	662681.458	12.23	13.9
GGA07	GGERFS03	262252.162	662759.930	11.63	56.9
GGA08	GGERFS03	262247.530	662751.025	11.82	91.4
GGA09r	GGERFS03	262242.793	662742.263	11.72	14.6
GGB04	GGERFS05	262353.057	662500.101	12.40	13.4
GGB05	GGERFS05	262353.080	662510.124	12.35	45
GGC01	GGERFS10	260915.13	663109.36	9.66	199

**Table 1 British National Grid reference locations for each UKGEOS borehole, start height (metres above Ordnance Datum) and drilled length. Note: drilling platforms have been subsequently remediated and borehole headworks installed; final borehole start heights will differ.**

Borehole location information is available in this express data release pack as an Excel table and a GIS shapefile (UKGEOSGlasgowboreholes\_AsBuilt\_Location\_Depth\_Feb20.xlsx and UKGEOSGlasgowboreholes\_AsBuilt\_Feb20.shp). In addition these digital files contain the top and base height of the screened intervals, along with the BGS\_SOBI borehole reference numbers.

## 1.2 NOTE ABOUT PLATFORM LEVELS AND START HEIGHTS

The drilling platform levels (metres, above Ordnance Datum) listed in this express data release were measured from hard core platforms that had been built up to provide level ground. These platforms are being remediated post-borehole construction and the final borehole start heights will be from headworks that are being installed for future site user. The final borehole start heights will be included in the subsequent data packs for each borehole.

## 2 Summary of screened intervals, borehole diameter and purpose

A summary of the borehole depth, screened interval, borehole diameter, installation of electrical resistivity tomography (ERT) and direct temperature sensing (DTS) fibre optic cables, and geology/purpose of the target interval is given in Table 2 below.

The boreholes have been constructed with 2 or 3 casing strings to isolate the made ground, superficial deposits and bedrock – only the internal casing diameter is listed in Table 2. Subsequent data packs will include the full details of the various casing sizes, depths and annulus grouting, as well as a cased-hole

gamma wireline log dataset from the three deepest mine water boreholes, and an open-hole optical camera downhole image and open-hole caliper/gamma wireline dataset from a few of the mine water boreholes.

Temperature, pressure, conductivity groundwater data loggers will be installed into all of the boreholes once the borehole headworks are completed. A set of step- and constant-rate pumping tests is ongoing to determine some basic hydraulic properties.

In the case of boreholes GGA02 and GGA08, the planned borehole design had to be adapted during borehole construction. A summary of the main changes is provided in sections 2.1 and 2.2 below.

Site	Site GGERFS01			Site GGERFS02			Site GGERFS03			Site GGERFS05	
Borehole	GGA01	GGA02	GGA03r	GGA04	GGA05	GGA06r	GGA07	GGA08	GGA09r	GGB04	GGB05
Screen depth from drill platform (drilled depth, m)	45.5-49.5	cased, dry hole to c. 69m	37.5 – 40.5	47.7 - 51.3	83.7-86.4	11.9 – 13.9	51.2-53.9	85.6 - 88.3	11.6 – 13.6	10.4 – 12.4	43-44.8
Screen type and internal casing diameter	4mm slotted with pre-glued gravel pack, 246 mm ID	246 mm ID	3 mm slotted with pre-glued gravel pack, 146 mm ID	4mm slotted with pre-glued gravel pack, 246 mm ID	4mm slotted no gravel pack, 246 mm ID	1 mm slotted with pre-glued gravel pack, 103.8 mm ID	4mm slotted pre-glued gravel pack, 246 mm ID	4mm slotted pre-glued gravel pack, 246 mm ID	1 mm slotted with pre-glued gravel pack, 103.8 mm ID	1 mm slotted with pre-glued gravel pack, 103.8 mm ID	3 mm slotted with pre-glued gravel pack, 146 mm ID
Screened interval	Overlying sandstone roof and Glasgow Upper mine working waste (47.6 - 48.9m)	n/a. Grout filled Glasgow Main target interval/screen inside casing up to 69 m	Sandstone below rockhead, above Glasgow Upper mine working	Overlying sandstone roof (fractured?) and Glasgow Upper mine working position (49.5-50.6m coal and mudstone)	Overlying sandstone roof and Glasgow Main mine working, void (84.7-85.4m), to mudstone floor	Sand and gravel in superficial deposits	Overlying mudstone and Glasgow Upper mine working, coal pillar and void (52-53.4 m)	Overlying sandstone/siltstone and Glasgow Main mine roadway 87.7-90.7 m (screen above obstruction)	Sand and gravel in superficial deposits	Sand and gravel in superficial deposits	Sandstone below rockhead, above Glasgow Upper mine working
Total drilled depth (m) from drill platform	52	94.1	41.5	53.6	88.5	13.9	56.9	91.4	14.6	13.4	45
ERT/Fibre optics	Yes, bedrock section. Active DTS heating possible	Active DTS possible in superficial section. ERT and passive DTS (to 69 m) in bedrock section	No	Yes, bedrock section	Yes, bedrock section	No	Yes, bedrock section	Yes, bedrock section. DTS above seal at 84.5 m only	No	No	No
Initial hydrogeological indications from borehole purging/ cleaning	Good yield with very limited drawdown	n/a	Moderate yield	Good yield from Glasgow Upper mine working	Good yield from Glasgow Main mine working	Low yield	Good yield from Glasgow Upper mine working	Good yield from Glasgow Main mine working	Moderate yield	Low yield	Good yield
Headline science outcomes	Mine water borehole for testing flow, heat response in a waste with significant water flow. Spatial response in same seam in 3D with GGA04 and GGA07	ERT/fibre optic monitoring in response to GGA01 or GGA03r pumping. Active heating in superficial deposits. Hole for sensor testing	Environmental baseline monitoring in bedrock. Depth connectivity and response with pumping etc. in GGA01	Fractured rock and mine working affected rock mass research. Depth response between mined seams with GGA05. Spatial response in same seam in 3D from GGA01 and GGA07	Mine water borehole for testing flow, heat etc response in a void with significant water flow. Depth response between mined seams with GGA04. Spatial response in same seam with GGA08.	Environmental baseline monitoring in superficial deposits. Depth connectivity and response with pumping etc. in GGA04 and GGA05	Mine water borehole for testing flow, heat etc response in a void. Depth response between mined seams with GGA08. Spatial response in same seam 3D with GGA01 and GGA04.	Mine water borehole for testing flow, heat etc response in a roadway/void. Depth response between mined seams with GGA07. Spatial response in same seam with GGA05.	Environmental baseline monitoring in superficial deposits. Depth connectivity and response with pumping etc. in GGA07/GGA08	Environmental baseline monitoring in superficial deposits, some distance from mine water boreholes. Depth connectivity and response with pumping	Environmental baseline monitoring in bedrock, some distance from mine water boreholes. Depth connectivity and response with pumping etc.

**Table 2 Summary of as-built mine water and environmental baseline monitoring boreholes. Note these are subject to minor changes as final details are received from the drilling contractor. All drilled depths/lengths are given from drilling platform start height, see Table 1 and section 1.2.**

## **2.1 GGA02**

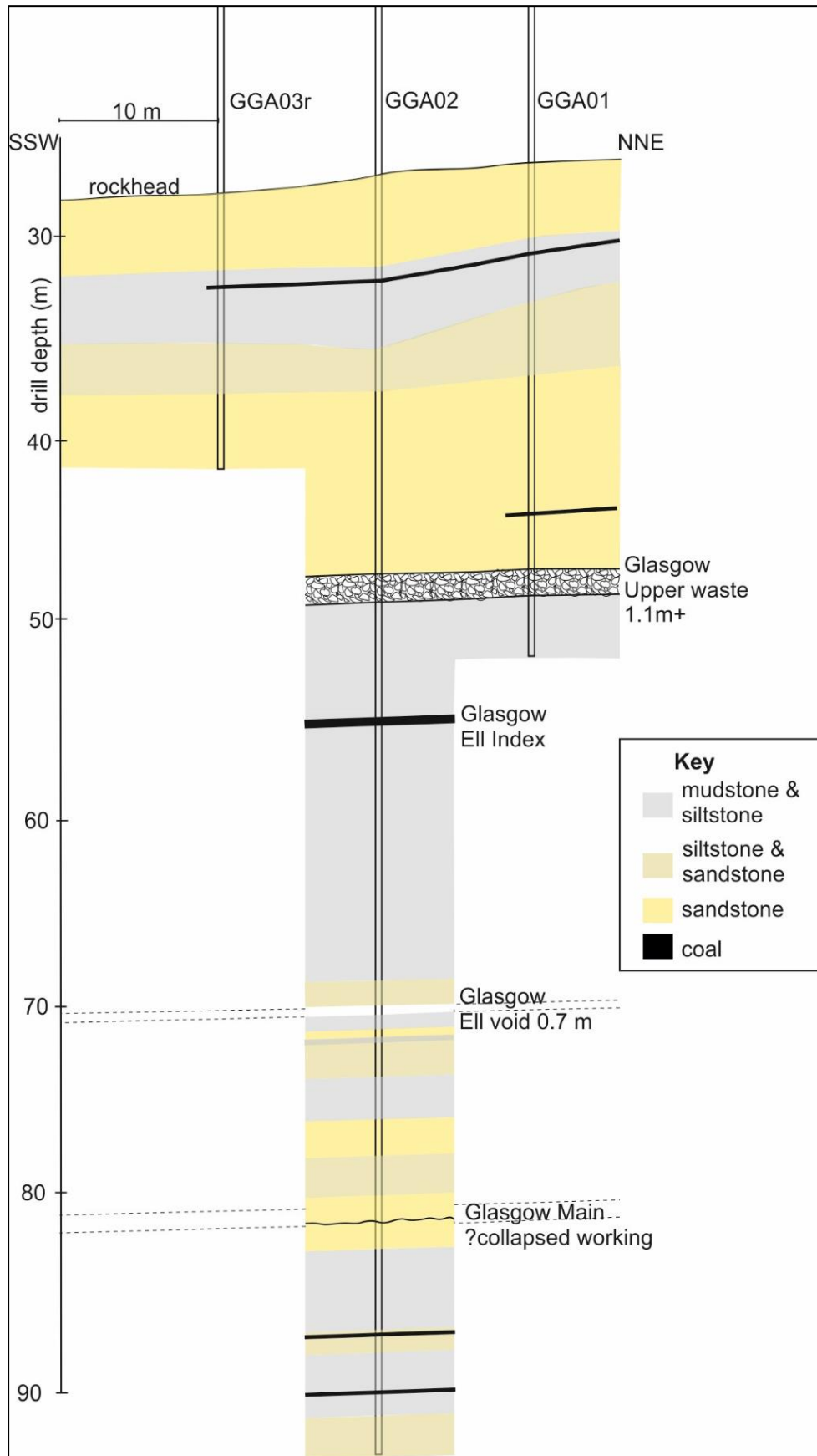
Borehole GGA02 was drilled as a mine water borehole to a depth of 94.1 m. ERT and DTS cables were installed across the screened section at 79.1-83.6 m. Unfortunately in the final stages of borehole construction, during the grouting of the borehole annulus, cement (grout) entered the inside of the screen and casing and the DTS cable was damaged. The result is that GGA02 is a dry, cased hole to around 69 m. The ERT cable is functioning, facilitating cross-hole monitoring with the ERT cable in GGA01. The DTS cable is functioning only in passive (not active, heating) mode to 69 m.

## **2.2 GGA08**

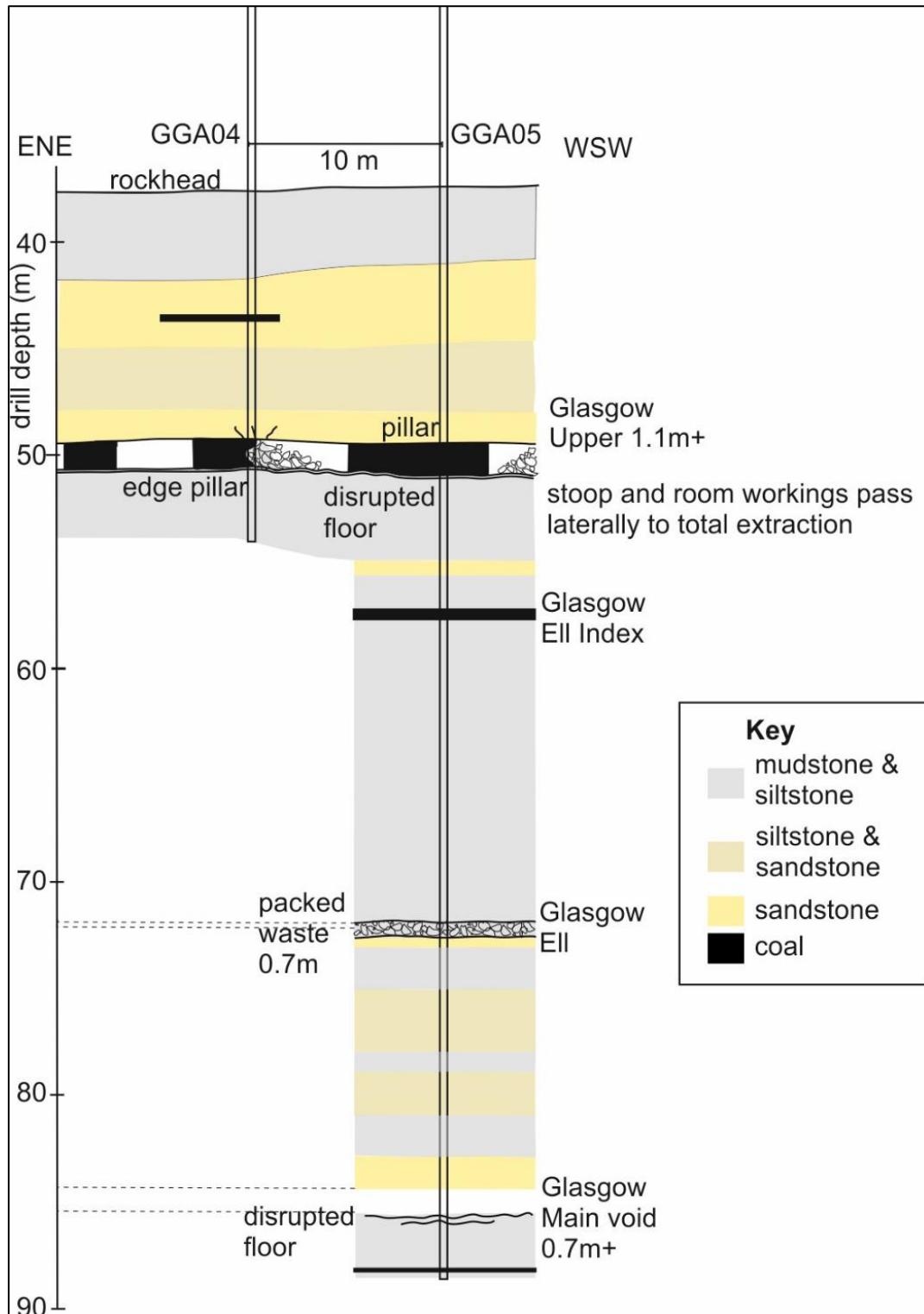
Borehole GGA08 is believed to have entered a roadway in the Glasgow Main mine working from 87.7-90.7 m. During the final stages of drilling the sump below the roadway a large, high angle, block was encountered that deviated the drill string and prevented the permanent casing from being emplaced to the target depth. The borehole casing was therefore terminated and screened within the roadway and above the obstruction. Due to the length of the sump needed to accommodate the DTS termination unit, the DTS cable was terminated above the seal at 84.5 m. The ERT cable extends to the base of the casing at 88.3 m.

# **3 Initial interpretive summary geological images**

Figures 2-4 below have been prepared as an illustrative representation of the initial BGS interpretation of the bedrock boreholes and mine workings encountered. These are based on observations from drilling (e.g. drop of drill rods, smell of H<sub>2</sub>S), BGS on-site logs of the returned rock chips, mine plan information, wireline (caliper) and optical camera open-hole data (selected boreholes only). The interpretations are subject to change with further interpretation of the datasets and more detailed lithological logging of the rock chips in the laboratory.

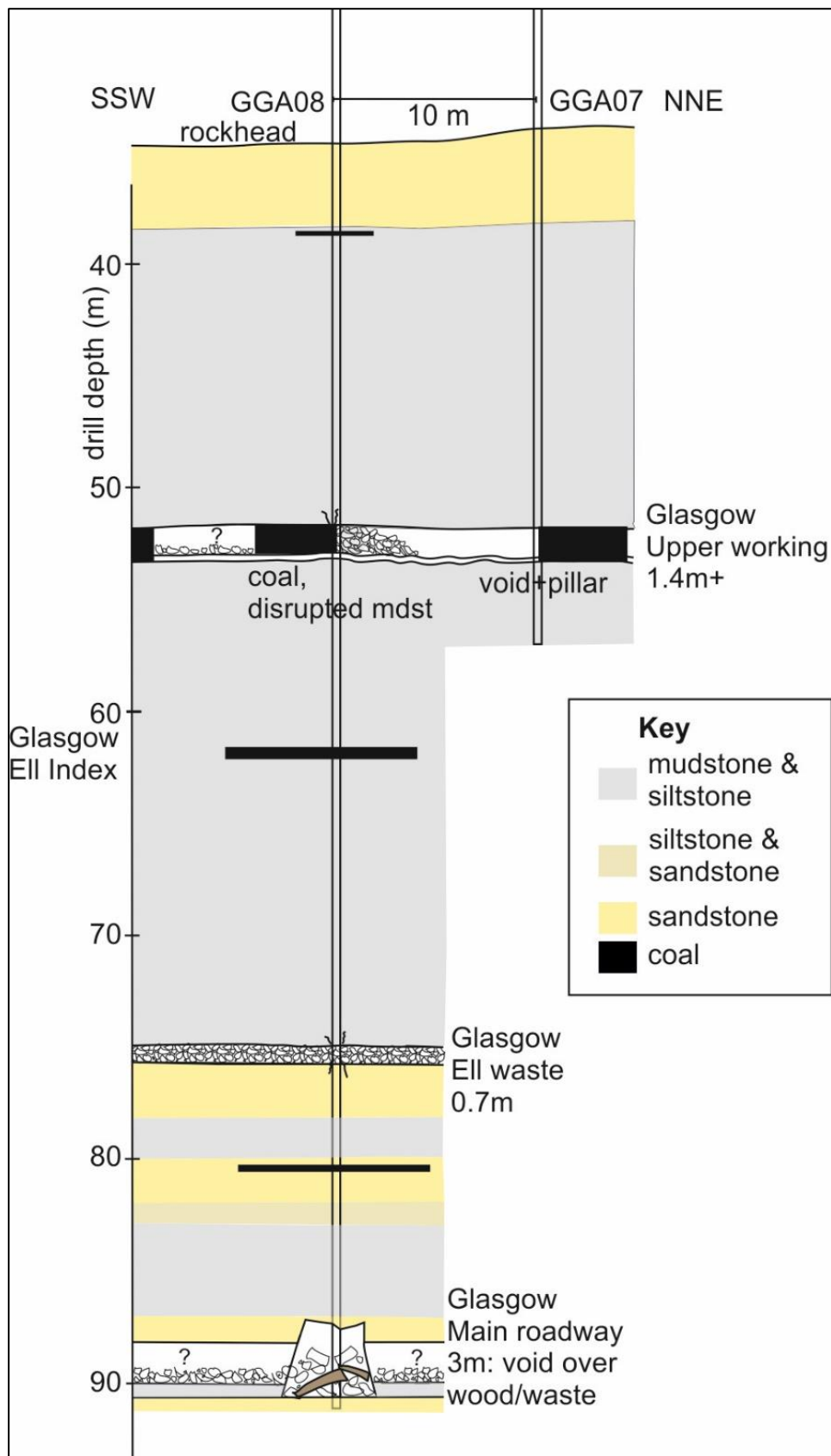


**Figure 2 Initial interpretive summary of boreholes GGA01, GGA02 and GGA03r. Superficial deposits not shown, borehole width not to scale. GGA01 is screened at the Glasgow Upper mine working, GGA02 is now a dry, cased hole to c. 69 m, GGA03r is screened in sandstone.**



**Figure 3 Initial interpretive summary of boreholes GGA04 and GGA05. Superficial deposits not shown, borehole width not to scale. GGA04 is screened at the Glasgow Upper mine working, GGA05 is screened at the Glasgow Main mine working.**





**Figure 4 Initial interpretive summary of boreholes GGA07 and GGA08. Superficial deposits not shown, borehole width not to scale. GGA07 is screened at the Glasgow Upper mine working, GGA08 is screened in the top part of the Glasgow Main mine working.**

## 4 Science opportunities from the as-built boreholes

The as-built UKGEOS Glasgow boreholes will provide a range of opportunities for scientific research and innovation and will be available for science community users in 2020. In summary, the as-built infrastructure comprises:

- 5 wide (246 mm casing ID) diameter mine water boreholes: 3 screened at the Glasgow Upper mine working and 2 screened at the Glasgow Main mine working
  - Mine water boreholes are equipped with down hole and cross-hole continuous sensor cables for electrical resistivity tomography (ERT) and direct temperature sensing (DTS)
- 5 environmental monitoring boreholes:
  - 2 screened boreholes in the top of the sandstone bedrock above the Glasgow Upper mine working (146 mm casing ID, screened at 37.5–40.5 m & 43.0–44.8 m)
  - 3 screened boreholes in superficial deposits above the bedrock (103.8 mm casing ID, screened at 11.9–13.9 m; 11.6–13.6 m; 10.4–12.4 m)

Initial results from test pumping indicate high to very high aquifer productivity in the mine water boreholes, with several of them yielding 20 l/s over a 5 hour test for drawdowns of <2 m. Mine water temperatures are commonly around 12°C with initial indications of relatively good mine water quality.

By way of example, this infrastructure could support the following research/ innovation activities:

- Research into the characteristics and hydraulic properties of different types of legacy mine working:
  - Void
  - Roadway
  - Waste
  - Pillar
  - Fractured rock
- Development of new tools and approaches for mine water characterisation and monitoring
- Modelling of mine system behaviour using data from field studies and the continuous pressure-temperature-conductivity downhole data loggers
- Characterisation of any physical/ chemical interactions between the flooded mine workings and the shallow bedrock and superficial monitoring boreholes.
- Baseline monitoring for any effect of mine water pumping operations on surface water quality, ground gas emissions, ground motion and seismicity.

Design work is ongoing to install additional infrastructure to support abstraction and re-injection of mine water. In the interim period the Glasgow Observatory is available for research to establish the baseline geology, hydrogeology and microbiology etc., ahead of any major subsurface heat perturbations.

Further information on accessing the UK Geoenergy Observatory in Glasgow is available on the website <https://www.ukgeos.ac.uk/research> or contact [ukgeosenquiries@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:ukgeosenquiries@bgs.ac.uk)

## 5 Useful publications and datasets

Background information on the geology, hydrogeology, soil geochemistry etc. of the area can be found within:

MONAGHAN, A A, Ó DOCHARTAIGH, B E, FORDYCE, F M, LOVELESS, S, ENTWISLE, D, QUINN, M, SMITH, K, ELLEN, R, ARKLEY, S, KEARSEY, T, CAMPBELL, S D G, FELLGETT, M, MOSCA, I. 2017 UKGEOS: Glasgow Geothermal Energy Research Field Site (GGERFS): initial summary of the geological platform. Nottingham, UK, *British Geological Survey Open Report*, OR/17/006. <http://nora.nerc.ac.uk/id/eprint/518636/>

The infrastructure as was planned is described in:

MONAGHAN, A A, STARCHER, V, Ó DOCHARTAIGH, B E, SHORTER, K M, BURKIN, J. 2019. UK Geoenergy Observatories : Glasgow Geothermal Energy Research Field Site: Science Infrastructure Version 2. Nottingham, UK, British Geological Survey Open Report, OR/19/032 <http://nora.nerc.ac.uk/id/eprint/522814/> <http://nora.nerc.ac.uk/id/eprint/518636/>

Further publications can be found at <https://www.ukgeos.ac.uk/data/publications>. Datasets are available on the bedrock and superficial deposits geological models, the cored, seismic monitoring borehole and links to the seismic monitoring data at <https://www.ukgeos.ac.uk/data-downloads>